



MARINE FISHERIES REGULATION SUMMARIES

as of January 2005

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These documents are updated annually to serve as a companion document to Mass. General Laws, Chapter 130 and rules and regulations 322 CMR.

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MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
RULES & REGULATIONS SUMMARY
(as of January 2005)

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

The following regulatory changes occurred during August of 2004 through January of 2005:

(Note: This is not a comprehensive list of all regulatory changes enacted during this period. It does NOT include regulations changed by emergency actions, nor does it include regulations that have been superseded by more recent changes.) Please contact the authors for more information or suggestions.

- Elimination of a reduced 5-cod possession limit for recreational fishermen during December through March; ten-cod possession limit was extended year-round. [322 CMR 6.03]. Effective September of 2004.
- Appeals process established for determining Outer Cape lobster trap allocation for certain permit holder who received their permit off the waiting list during 2001. [322 CMR 6.13]. Effective September of 2004.
- Vessel upgrade provisions relaxed for small vessel (32 – 40') to allow increases in length and/or tonnage up to 20%. [322 CMR 7.05]. Effective September of 2004.
- Additional seasonal closures implemented in the recreational black sea bass fishery from September 8th - 21st and December 1st - 31st. [322 CMR 6.28]. Effective December of 2004.
- Clarification of 12" maximum size for rockhoppers. [322 CMR 8.04 & 8.11]. Effective December of 2004.
- 2005 Northern shrimp fishery established, beginning December 19th, along with new process for enacting annual specifications of the northern shrimp fishery as approved by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. [322 CMR 5.00]. Effective December of 2004.
- Increased minimum size of circular vents to 2 5/8" for those lobster traps utilized in LMAs 2, 3, and Outer Cape and the Southeastern Recreational Lobster Area. [322 CMR 6.02]. Effective December of 2004.
- Complemented federal regulations established in Amendment 13 for groundfish management including decreased recreational cod and haddock minimum sizes to 22" and 19", respectively; adoption of 36" halibut minimum size and 1 fish possession limit for both commercial and recreational fisheries; amended commercial cod trip limits to 800/1,000 lbs. north/southeast of Cape Cod, respectively; seasonal commercial yellowtail trip limits of 750/250 lbs. from Dec-Mar & Jun-Sep/Apr-May & Oct-Nov, respectively. [322 CMR 6.03]. Effective December of 2004.
- Complemented federal regulations in adjacent waters by requiring use of a raised footrope trawl in the Cape Ann Whiting Area during September. [322 CMR 3.04 & 8.07]. Effective December of 2004.
- November 4, 2004 control date established for fisheries conducted with hook-and-line gear, including the commercial striped bass fishery. [322 CMR 7.04 & 6.07]. Effective December of 2004.
- Extension of gear restrictions in Cape Cod Bay Critical Habitat from April 30th through May 15th. [322 CMR 12.05]. Effective December of 2004.

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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	GILLNETTING (Fishing on or near bottom)
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PERMIT REQUIRED:			<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen		
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	\$260	\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	\$195	\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	\$130	\$260
		Or		
		Individual	\$65	\$130
	(2)	Regulated fishery endorsement	\$30	\$60
	If certain species are being taken or landed:			
	(3)	Species-specific endorsements for summer flounder (fluke), scup, sea herring, dogfish, black sea bass	\$30	\$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	Regulated fishery gillnet endorsement limited to renewals only.
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REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Catch reports required (forms supplied by DMF & available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries).
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GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mesh minimum size: 6 ½" (stretched) [CMR 8.11]. Net maximum length: 2400 feet [CMR 4.13]. Marking [CMR 4.13] <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> <u>East end</u> – high flyer and 12" tetrahedral radar reflector. <u>West end</u> – high flyer, flag, and tetrahedral radar reflector. </div> Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].
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AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DURATION</u>	<u>REGULATION</u>
	Inshore Net Areas (estuaries and harbors, includes Buzzards Bay)	Year-round (see "Gillnetting with inshore net endorsement")	CMR 4.02
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Cape Cod Bay Critical Habitat	January 1 – May 15	CMR 12.06
	North of Cape Cod inside spawning closure line from P'town to N.H.	Feb 1 - May 31	CMR 8.09
	South of Cape Cod line	Apr 1 – Nov 15	CMR 4.09
	Groundfish Closure I: Upper Cape Cod Bay and Mass. Bay (South of Marblehead)	April 1 - May 31 & Oct 1 – Nov 30	CMR 8.12
	Groundfish Closure II: Marblehead north to N.H.	April 1- June 30	CMR 8.12
	East of Cape Cod	May 1 – May 31	CMR 8.12
AREA/SEASON	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DURATION</u>	<u>REGULATION</u>

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CLOSURES: (cont'd)	Mass. Bay adjacent to Boston Harbor	May 15 – Nov 1	CMR 4.11
SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	Striped bass [CMR 6.07] , shad [CMR 4.12] , smelt [Ch.130 sec. 35] , tuna [CMR 6.04] , all billfish [CMR 6.11] , lobster (must also have a coastal lobster permit).		
OTHER RELEVANT RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Federal marine mammal regulations apply to all commercial gillnetters fishing in state waters; be mindful that these federal rules supercede state commercial fishing regulations. Also federal regulations require certain gillnet gear specifications to reduce the risk of entanglement with large whales. Contact NOAA Fisheries for details.“Pingers” are required in certain seasons and areas to reduce the incidental take of harbor porpoise, and these rules are subject to change.		

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FISHERY:	GILLNETTING (Fishing on or near surface)				
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PERMIT REQUIRED:				<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen			
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	\$260	\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195	\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130	\$260
			Or		
		Individual	\$65	\$130
	(2)	Regulated fishery endorsement	\$30	\$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	None.
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REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	None.
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GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mesh minimum size: None Net maximum length: 2400 feet [CMR 4.13]. Marking [CMR 4.13] <div style="margin-left: 40px;"><u>East end</u> -- high flyer and 12" tetrahedral radar reflector.</div> <div style="margin-left: 40px;"><u>West end</u> -- high flyer, flag, and tetrahedral radar reflector.</div> Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].
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AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	Inshore Net Areas (estuaries and harbors, includes Buzzards Bay)	Year-round (see "Gillnetting with inshore net endorsement")	CMR 4.02
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Cape Cod Bay Critical Habitat	January 1 – May 15	CMR 12.06
	North of Cape Cod inside spawning closure line from P'town to N.H.	Feb 1 – May 31	CMR 8.09
	South of Cape Cod including around Martha's Vineyard & Nantucket	April 1 - Nov 15	CMR 4.09
	East of Cape Cod	May 1 – May 31	CMR 8.12

SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	Striped bass [CMR 6.07] , shad [CMR 4.12] , smelt [Ch.130 sec. 35] , tuna [CMR 6.04] , all billfish [CMR 6.11] .
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OTHER RELEVANT RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See "Gillnetting for Bluefish" summary Federal marine mammal regulations apply to all commercial gillnetters fishing in state waters; be mindful that these federal rules supercede state fishing regulations. Also federal regulations require certain gillnet gear specifications to reduce the risk of entanglement with large whales. Contact NOAA Fisheries for details. "Pingers" are required in certain seasons and areas to reduce the incidental take of harbor porpoise, and these rules are subject to change.
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FISHERY:	GILLNETTING for Bluefish <i>Defined when catch for any 30 consecutive days is 50% or more bluefish.</i>
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PERMIT REQUIRED:				<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen			
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	\$260	\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195	\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130	\$260
			Or		
		Individual	.....	\$65	\$130
	(2)	Regulated fishery endorsement	.....	\$30	\$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	Permits to gillnet for bluefish south of a line from the Cape Cod Canal to P'town including all waters south and west of Cape Cod are issued only to those individuals who held a bluefish gillnet Regulated fishery endorsement in 1982 [CMR 4.05] .
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REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catch reports required (forms supplied by DMF & available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries). Commercial fishermen shipping bluefish to out-of-state dealers are required to become authorized dealers [CMR 4.05].
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GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mesh minimum size: 5" (stretched) [CMR 4.05]. Net maximum length: 1500 feet [CMR 4.05]. Marking [CMR 4.13] <u>East end</u> -- high flyer and 12" tetrahedral radar reflector. <u>West end</u> -- high flyer, flag, and tetrahedral radar reflector. Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].
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AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DURATION</u>	<u>REGULATION</u>
	Inshore Net Areas (estuaries and harbors, includes Buzzards Bay)	Year-round (see "Gillnetting with inshore net endorsement")	CMR 4.02
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Southeastern Cape Cod Bay	Year-round	CMR 4.05
	Cape Cod Bay Critical Habitat	January 1 – May 15	CMR 12.06
	North of Cape Cod inside spawning closure line from P'town to N.H.	Feb 1 - May 31	CMR 8.09
	Groundfish Closure I: Upper Cape Cod Bay and Mass. Bay (South of Marblehead)	April 1 – May 31 & Oct 1 – Nov 30	CMR 8.12
	Groundfish Closure II: Marblehead north to N.H.	April 1 – June 30	CMR 8.12
	East of Cape Cod	May 1 – May 31	CMR 8.12

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AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: (cont'd)	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DURATION</u>	<u>REGULATION</u>
	Mass. Bay adjacent to Boston Harbor	May 15 – Nov 1	CMR 4.11
SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	Striped bass [CMR 6.07] , shad [CMR 4.12] , smelt [Ch.130 sec. 35] , tuna [CMR 6.04] , all billfish [CMR 6.11] .		
OTHER RELEVANT RESTRICTIONS:	Nets must be tended at all times [CMR 4.05] . Night fishing is prohibited [CMR 4.05] . (½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise) Daily possession limit and quota set annually [CMR 4.05] .		

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FISHERY:		GILLNETTING for Dogfish. <i>Defined when target catch is dogfish.</i>				
PERMIT REQUIRED:				<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non- Resident</u>	
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	\$260	\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195	\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130	\$260
			or			
		Individual	.....	\$65	\$130
(2)	Regulated fishery endorsement	.....	\$30	\$60	
PERMIT LIMIT:		Endorsements available only to those gillnetters who have fished 3 of the last 5 years with gillnets in state waters for dogfish [CMR 6.35] .				
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:		Catch reports required (forms supplied by DMF & available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries).				
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mesh minimum size: 6 1/2" (stretched) [CMR 6.35].• Net maximum length: 300 feet [CMR 6.35].• Limit to fishing 30 (thirty) 300-foot gillnets at any one time with no string of gillnets exceeding 2,400 feet in total length [CMR 6.35].• Nets must be tended at all times [CMR 6.35].				
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	<u>LOCATION</u>		<u>DURATION</u>	<u>REGULATION</u>		
	Night fishing prohibited (½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise).		Year-round	CMR 6.35		
	Inshore Net Areas (estuaries and harbors, includes Buzzards Bay)		Year-round (see inshore gillnet endorsement)	CMR 4.02		
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.		Year-round	CMR 4.04		
	Southeastern Cape Cod Bay		Year-round	CMR 4.05		
	Cape Cod Bay Critical Habitat		January 1 – May 15	CMR 12.06		
	North of Cape Cod inside spawning closure line from P'town to N.H.		Feb 1 - May 31	CMR 8.09		
	Groundfish Closure I: Upper Cape Cod Bay and Mass. Bay (South of Marblehead)		April 1 – May 31 & Oct 1 – Nov 30	CMR 8.12		
	Groundfish Closure II: Marblehead north to N.H.		April 1 – June 30	CMR 8.12		
	East of Cape Cod		May 1 – May 31	CMR 8.12		
	Mass. Bay adjacent to Boston Harbor		May 15 – Nov 1	CMR 4.11		
	SPECIES BANNED		Striped bass [CMR 6.07] , shad [CMR 4.12] , smelt [Ch.130 sec. 35] , tuna [CMR 6.04] ,			

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TO THIS GEAR:	billfish [CMR 6.11] , and regulated groundfish
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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:		GILLNETTING, TRAWLING, PURSE SEINING, or HAUL SEINING with inshore net regulated fishery endorsement.			
PERMIT REQUIRED: <i>Note: No special permit needed to fish with a net less than 200 sq. feet for baitfish for personal use [CMR 4.02]</i>				Resident	Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen			
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	\$260	\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195	\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130	\$260
			or		
		Individual	.....	\$65	\$130
	(2)	Regulated fishery endorsement	.....	\$30	\$60
PERMIT LIMIT:		None.			
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:		The applicant must list - and is limited to – the specific species, gear type and fishing area.			
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:		Varies with fishery. Some yearly catch reports required and are available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries . Contact DMF for details.			
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mesh minimum size: Variable. DMF discretion.• Net size: Variable. DMF discretion.• Gillnet marking: unless waived by DMF, CMR 4.13 applies: East end – high flyer and 12” tetrahedral radar reflector. West end – high flyer, flag, and tetrahedral radar reflector.• Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].• Although fishing with nets is generally prohibited in the Inshore Net Areas, permits are occasionally issued to individuals to fish for species other than flounder.			
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:		LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION	
		All state waters closed to night mobile gear fishing	Year-round	CMR 8.03	
		All state waters outside of the defined inshore net areas	Year-round	See CMR 4.02 for inshore net areas	
SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:		Any species not listed on permit is banned. Note: winter flounder netting is banned year round in defined inshore net areas that include Mt. Hope Bay and Buzzards Bay [322 CMR 6.23] .			

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FISHERY:		PURSE SEINING for SEA HERRING or MENHADEN.			
PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident	Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen			
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	\$260	\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195	\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130	\$260
			or		
		Individual	.....	\$65	\$130
	(2)	Regulated fishery endorsement for sea herring	.....	\$30	\$60
PERMIT LIMIT:		None.			
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:		No catch reports are presently required.			
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:		The 90' vessel size limit [CMR 8.05] does not apply to vessels fishing in state waters, but vessels >165 feet - 3,000 HP cannot land herring in the Commonwealth [CMR 9.03] .			
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION		DURATION	REGULATION	
	All State Waters* (closed to sea herring)		Aug 1 - Oct 31	CMR 9.02	
	Inshore Net Areas** (estuaries and harbors, and includes Buzzards Bay)		Year-round	CMR 4.02	
	Eastern Cape Cod Bay*** (Dennis to Wellfleet)		Year-round	CMR 4.01	
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.		Year-round	CMR 4.04	
* During the annual sea herring spawning closure, vessels fishing in other fisheries are allowed a by-catch of 10 % herring by weight. The Sea Herring Management Plan is under review by NMFS and ASMFC: seasonal no-fishing days may apply – see CMR 9.02 ; contact DMF for details.					
**Inshore Net Regulated fishery endorsement required to gain access to these areas year-round.					
*** Regulated fishery endorsement may be issued to fish in this area. Vessels seeking to fish in a restricted area from Rock Harbor, Orleans to Jeremy Point, Wellfleet are further restricted. See CMR 4.01 .					
SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:		Striped bass [CMR 6.07] and shad [CMR 4.12] , smelt [Ch.130 sec. 35] , tuna [CMR 6.04] , all billfish [CMR 6.11] .			

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FISHERY:	MOBILE GEAR: Otter and Beam Trawls, Scallop Dredges, Bottom Pair Trawls, Scottish/Danish Seines and Pair Seines. <i>(With NO Regulated fishery endorsements for small mesh fishing, north shore mobile gear, or inshore net. See separate sheets for other permits.)</i>
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PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	\$260		\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195		\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130		\$260
			Or			
		Individual	.....	\$65		\$130
	(2)	Mobile Gear Coastal Access Endorsement	.....	\$30		\$60
	If certain species are being taken or landed,					
	(3)	Species-specific endorsements for summer flounder (fluke), scup, sea herring, dogfish, sea bass	.....	\$30		\$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal Access Permits limited to those who held permit in 1994 [CMR 7.05]. Coastal Access Permits are transferable [CMR 7.05 & 7.06]
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REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	None.
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GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mesh minimum size [CMR 8.07] (See chart for boundaries): <u>North & east of Cape Cod</u> – 6½” in the codend and 6” in the body of the net. <u>South of Cape Cod</u> – 6” diamond or 6½” square required Nov. 1 – April 22. - 4½” required June 1 – Oct. 31. Note: 100 lb limit on combined flounder(s) when fishing south of Cape Cod with mesh less than 6” in possession [CMR 8.07]. Vessel maximum size: 72 feet length overall except as noted in [CMR 7.05]. Net rollers: 12” maximum diameter [CMR 8.04]. Scallop dredge – Combined maximum 10-foot width in possession [CMR 4.10] - 3 ½” minimum ring size [CMR 4.10]. Net strengtheners: Alterations which obstruct or diminish meshes prohibited, including the use of “twisted mesh” [CMR 8.07].
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AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	All state waters closed to night mobile gear fishing	Year-round	CMR 8.03
	Inshore Net Areas (estuaries and harbors, includes Buzzards & Mt Hope Bays)	Year-round	CMR 4.02
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04

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AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: (cont'd)	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DURATION</u>	<u>REGULATION</u>
	North Shore state waters (Broad Sound to New Hampshire) except for Areas 5 & 6 where Regulated fishery endorsement is required.	Year-round	CMR 3.04
	North of Cape Cod inside spawning closure line from P'town to N.H.	Feb 1 - May 31	CMR 8.09
	Area 3 from Plymouth to Hull	April 1 - Oct 31	CMR 3.04
	Area 4 off outer Boston Harbor	April 1 - Dec 31	CMR 3.04
	Nantucket Sound (1A) (Off Nantucket Island)	April 1 - April 30	CMR 3.04
	Nantucket Island (1B) (Great Pt. to Nant. Harbor)	April 1 - April 30 & June 1 - Sept 15	CMR 3.04
	Groundfish Closure I: Upper Cape Cod Bay and Mass. Bay (South of Marblehead)	April 1 – May 31 & Oct 1 – Nov 30	CMR 8.12
	Groundfish Closure II: Marblehead north to N.H.	April 1 – June 30	CMR 8.12
	Succonnessett Pt., Mashpee to Nobska Pt., Falmouth (1/4 mile)	April 23 - May 31	CMR 3.04
	Cape Cod backside (2A): from Nauset Light around Monomoy to Succonnessett Pt., Mashpee	May 1 - Oct 31	CMR 3.04
	Area 2B from Provincetown to Plymouth	May 1 - Oct 31	CMR 3.04
	Nobska Pt., Falmouth to Cuttyhunk (1/4 mile)	May 1 - Oct 31	CMR 3.04
	East of Cape Cod	May 1 – May 31	CMR 8.12
	Succonnessett Pt., Mashpee to Nobska Pt., Falmouth (½ mile)	June 1 - Oct 31	CMR 3.04
	SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lobster: [Ch. 130 sec. 37]. Note [CMR 4.06] which restricts mobile gear fishermen seen fishing in state waters to only 100 lobsters (taken from federal waters) in possession. Striped bass [CMR 6.07], shad [CMR 4.12], smelt [Ch.130 sec.35], tuna [CMR 6.04], billfish [CMR 6.11]. 		

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FISHERY:	MOBILE GEAR: Otter and Beam Trawls, Bottom Pair Trawls, Scottish/Danish Seines and Pair Seines.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With Regulated fishery endorsements for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) North Shore Mobile Gear: access to Areas 5 & 6 (B) Small-mesh fishing for whiting (C) Small-mesh fishing for squid Permits required for each Coastal Access Permit may be endorsed for North Shore Mobile Gear access or for the use of small mesh for pout, whiting, dogfish, or squid.

PERMIT REQUIRED:				<u>Resident</u>		<u>Non-Resident</u>
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	\$260		\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195		\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130		\$260
			Or			
		Individual	.....	\$65		\$130
	(2)	Coastal Access Permit (CAP) Endorsement	.....	\$30		\$60
		CAP can be endorsed for one of the regulated fisheries at no charge; each additional endorsement costs	.....	\$30		\$60
		If certain species are being taken or landed,				
	(3)	Species-specific endorsements for summer flounder (fluke), scup, sea herring, sea bass, & dogfish	.....	\$30		\$60

(A)	North Shore Mobile Gear Endorsement
PERMIT LIMIT:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal Access Permits limited to those who held permit in 1994 [CMR 7.05].
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Annual reports of monthly catch required. Catch reports are available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries .

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mesh minimum size: 6" diamond or 6½" square unless use of smaller mesh is permitted. See (B) Small mesh permits. Trawl sweep (footrope) maximum length: 80 feet [CMR 3.04]. Vessel maximum size: 72 feet length overall except as noted in [CMR 7.05]. No rollers: Only chain, wire or disk sweeps allowed [CMR 3.04].
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AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	All state waters closed to night mobile gear fishing	Year-round	CMR 8.03
	When permitted to fish in areas 5 & 6 the following closures apply:		
	Area 5 off Rockport	Apr 1 – Jun 14 & Oct 1 – Jan 31	CMR 3.04
	Area 6 from Rockport to New Hampshire	Apr 1 – Dec 14	CMR 3.04

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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possession of lobsters is prohibited [CMR 3.04]. 		
(B)	Small-Mesh Endorsement for Whiting:		
PERMIT LIMIT:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whiting permit valid during Sep 1 – Nov 20 in upper Cape Cod Bay Whiting Area [CMR 8.14] and only September 1 - 30, in Area 5 off Cape Ann. 		
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Catch reports may be required and are available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries . Contact DMF for details.		
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	Upper Cape Cod Whiting Area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mesh Minimum Size: 2 1/2" Vessel Maximum Size: 72 feet length overall except as noted in [CMR 7.05]. Groundgear: Raised footrope trawl required; also required for September in Cape Ann Whiting Area [CMR 8.14]. 		
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	Fishing for whiting in Cape Cod Bay is allowed <u>only</u> in the approved portion of Cape Cod Bay.	Fishing allowed only during Sept 1 – Nov 20.	CMR 8.14
SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	No retention of any of the 10 federally regulated groundfish species (types of flounders, cod, haddock, or pollack) unless authorized by Director [CMR 8.07] .		
(C)	Small-Mesh Permits for Squid:		
PERMIT LIMIT:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permit only valid April 23 - May 31 [CMR 8.08]. Director may extend to June 15 [CMR 8.07]. Fishery limited to waters south of Cape Cod [CMR 8.07]. Possession limit of 100 lbs. combined of winter flounder, summer flounder, yellowtail flounder, or windowpane flounder [CMR 8.07]. 		
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	None.		
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mesh Minimum Size: May be established as permit condition. Vessel Maximum Size: 72 feet length overall [CMR 7.05]. Net Rollers: 12" diameter [CMR 8.04]. 		
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	All state waters closed to night fishing	Year-round	CMR 8.03
	Inshore Net Areas (estuaries and harbors, and includes Buzzards Bay)	Year-round (See "Trawling with Inshore Net Permit")	CMR 4.02
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Nantucket Sound (1A) (Off Nantucket Island)	April 1 - April 30	CMR 3.04

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AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: (cont'd)	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DURATION</u>	<u>REGULATION</u>
	Nantucket Island (1B) (Great Pt. to Nant. Harbor)	April 1 - April 30 & June 1 – Sept 15	CMR 3.04
	Succonnessett Pt., Mashpee to Nobska Pt., Falmouth (1/4 mile)	April 23 - May 31	CMR 3.04
	Cape Cod backside (2A): from Nauset Light around Monomoy to Succonnessett Pt., Mashpee	May 1 – Oct 31	CMR 3.04
	Nobska Pt., Falmouth to Cuttyhunk (1/4 mile)	May 1 – Oct 31	CMR 3.04
	Succonnessett Pt., Mashpee to Nobska Pt., Falmouth (½ mile)	June 1 – Oct 31	CMR 3.04
SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	No retention of any of the 10 federally regulated groundfish species (types of flounders, cod, haddock, or pollack) unless authorized by Director [CMR 8.07] .		

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FISHERY:	NORTHERN SHRIMP: Small-mesh Fishing in Federal Waters
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PERMIT REQUIRED:				<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen			
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster		\$260	\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet		\$195	\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less		\$130	\$260
		Or			
		Individual		\$65	\$130
	(2)	Northern Shrimp Regulated fishery endorsement		\$30	\$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	None.
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REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	None.
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GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Codend Mesh Minimum Size: 1 3/4" [322 CMR 5.05]. Nordmore grate (single or double) or other approved finfish excluder device required [CMR 5.05 & 5.06]. Maximum distance between trawl doors and trawl wings, including ground cables, bridles, etc. shall not exceed 15 fathoms. Bottom legs bare wire or chain [CMR 5.05]. Chafing gear and cod-end net strengtheners now allowed. <p><i>Other restrictions may apply. Shrimp regulations are amended by the states of Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts each fall for this winter/spring fishery. Contact DMF for details.</i></p>
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AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DURATION</u>	<u>REGULATION</u>
	All state waters	Year-round	CMR 8.07
	Federal waters	1/1-1/2 1/3-3/25 (Sat – Sun) 3/26-12/18 12/19-12/23 (Fri-Sat) 12/24-12/25 12/26-12/30 (Fri-Sat)	CMR 8.07 CMR 5.04

SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No landing of any of the 10 regulated groundfish species bycatch. See regulation for list of species [CMR 5.06 & 5.02]. Striped bass [CMR 6.07], shad [CMR 4.12], smelt [Ch. 130 sec. 35] tuna [CMR 6.04], all billfish [CMR 6.11].
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FISHERY:	SURF CLAM DREDGING
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PERMIT REQUIRED:				<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen			
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	\$260	\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195	\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130	\$260
			Or		
		Individual	.....	\$65	\$130
	(2)	Regulated fishery endorsement	.....	\$30	\$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surf clam Regulated Fishery endorsement limited to those who held a permit and can document landings from state waters prior to 2/4/93 [CMR 6.08]. Surf clam Regulated Fishery endorsement is transferable.
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REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	All commercial surf clam fishermen are required to provide the Director with a monthly record of the areas fished, ports landed, and a daily record of surf clams harvested [CMR 6.08] . Forms supplied by DMF.
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GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hydraulic dredge limited to 100 inch effective fishing width south of Chatham, then south and west within state waters to the MA/RI border [CMR 6.08]. Hydraulic dredge limited to 48 inch effective fishing width in all waters not included above [CMR 6.08]. Limited to operation of one dredge. [CMR 6.08] Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].
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AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DURATION</u>	<u>REGULATION</u>
	All state waters closed to night fishing	Year-round	CMR 8.03
	Any area designated as contaminated & classified as PROHIBITED by DMF	Year-round	CMR 6.08
	Any area not classified as APPROVED according to the National Shellfish Sanitation Program	Year-round	CMR 6.08
	No dredging of surf clams shoreward of the 12-foot depth contour from Point Allerton, Hull to the RI border (see CMR 6.08(2)(i-k) for exceptions regarding the Towns of Gay Head, Chatham & Nantucket).	November 1 – April 30	CMR 6.08
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04

AREA/SEASON	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DURATION</u>	<u>REGULATION</u>
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CLOSURES: (cont'd)	No dredging of surf clams shoreward of the 20-foot depth contour from Point Allerton, Hull to the RI border (see CMR 6.08 for exceptions regarding the Towns of Gay Head, Chatham & Nantucket).	May 1 - October 31	CMR 6.08
	No dredging of surf clams shoreward of line from Long Point, Provincetown to the "Hopper" so called in North Truro.	Year-round	CMR 6.08
	No dredging of surf clams shoreward of line from Jeremy Point, Wellfleet to the "Spire" in Brewster.	Year-round	CMR 6.08
	No dredging of surf clams shoreward of line from Seal Rocks off Scraggy Neck, Bourne to the southernmost tip of Sandy Point Dike, Wareham.	Year-round	CMR 6.08
	No dredging of surf clams within area one-mile seaward from mean low water from Great Point Light to Sankaty Light, Nantucket.	May 1 – Oct 31	CMR 6.08
	No dredging of surf clams shoreward of line from Jeremy Point, Wellfleet to the "Spire" in Brewster.	Year-round	CMR 6.08
SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	Bay Scallops, and quahogs (<u>M. mercenaria</u>) unless licensed by town where fishing for those species [CMR 6.08] .		
FISHERY LIMITS:	<u>Minimum Size</u> - Surf clam minimum size limit 5" shell diameter [CMR 6.08] . <u>Possession Limits</u> - 200 bushels per 24-hour day [CMR 6.08] or 400 bushels per 48-hour trip when fishing in state waters [CMR 6.08] .		

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FISHERY:		SURF CLAM DREDGING IN CONTAMINATED AREAS (Harvest for bait purposes from prohibited areas)				
PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non- Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	\$260		\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195		\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130		\$260
			Or			
		Individual	.....	\$65		\$130
(2)	Regulated fishery endorsement	.....	\$30		\$60	
PERMIT LIMIT:		None.				
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fisherman may not hold a Shellfish Transaction Card [CMR 6.08].• Catch must be landed & distributed according to permit restrictions [CMR 6.08].• All shellfish must be landed at a location to be named on the permit [CMR 6.08].				
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All commercial contaminated surf clam fishermen are required to provide the Director with a monthly record of the areas fished, ports landed, and a daily record of surf clams harvested by bushel [CMR 6.08]. Forms supplied by DMF & available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.• In addition a daily record of sales must be kept [CMR 6.08].• All bags and containers must be labeled at sea with red tags stating: "CONTAMINATED SHELLFISH – FOR BAIT PURPOSES ONLY" [CMR 6.08].				
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hydraulic dredge limited to 16-inch effective fishing width. [CMR 6.08].• Limited to operation of one dredge [CMR 6.08].• Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].• Pump limited to 300 GPM at a 10-ft. head.				
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION		DURATION		REGULATION	
	All state waters closed to night fishing.		Year-round		CMR 6.08 & 8.03	
	Any area not specifically endorsed on permit		Year-round		CMR 6.08	
	No fishing in areas classified as APPROVED.		Year-round		CMR 6.08	
SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:		All other shellfish species.				
FISHERY LIMITS:		Minimum Size - Surf clam minimum size limit 5" shell diameter [CMR 6.08] . Possession Limits - Limit of 50 bushels of shell stock or 100 gallons shucked per 24-hour trip [CMR 6.08] .				

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FISHERY:		OCEAN QUAHOG DREDGING				
PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	\$260		\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195		\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130		\$260
			Or			
		Individual	.....	\$65		\$130
	(2)	Regulated fishery endorsement	.....	\$30		\$60
PERMIT LIMIT:		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ocean quahog Regulated fishery endorsement limited to those who held a permit and can document landings from state waters prior to 6/3/93 or meet the requirements to fish for surf clams [CMR 6.08].				
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ocean quahog Regulated fishery endorsement is transferable.				
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:		<ul style="list-style-type: none">All commercial ocean quahog fishermen are required to provide the Director with a monthly record of the areas fished, times fished, and a daily record of harvest by bushel [CMR 6.08]. Forms supplied by DMF & available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.				
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hydraulic dredge limited to 16-inch effective fishing width [CMR 6.08].Limited to operation of one dredge [CMR 6.08].Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].Pump limited to 300 GPM at a 10-ft. head.				
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION		DURATION		REGULATION	
	All state waters closed to night fishing.		Year-round		CMR 8.03	
	No fishing in any area designated as contaminated and classified as PROHIBITED by DMF		Year-round		CMR 6.08	
	No fishing in areas not classified as APPROVED according to the National Shellfish Sanitation Program.		Year-round		CMR 6.08	
SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bay Scallops, and quahogs (<i>M. mercenaria</i>) unless licensed by town where fishing for those species [CMR 6.08].Any vessel rigged for ocean quahogs may not possess surf clams [CMR 6.08].				
FISHERY LIMITS:		<u>Minimum Size</u> – None <u>Possession Limits</u> - 26 cages (832 bushels) per 24 hour day [CMR 6.08] .				

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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	HOOK AND LINE (includes Rod and Reel)					
PERMIT REQUIRED:				<u>Resident</u>		<u>Non-Resident</u>
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster		\$260		\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet		\$195		\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less		\$130		\$260
			Or			
		Individual		\$65		\$130
			Or			
		Rod & Reel		\$35		\$100
		If certain species are being taken or landed,				
	(2)	Species-specific endorsements for summer flounder (fluke), striped bass, scup, sea herring, dogfish, sea bass & American eel		\$30		\$60
PERMIT LIMIT:	None					
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	After November 4, 2004, any person issued a commercial fisherman's permit to conduct any fishery using hook-and-line, longline, or handgear within waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth, including the commercial striped bass fishery, may be subject to eligibility criteria for determining levels of future access to and allowable harvest of these fisheries. Future entry into such fisheries may be based on historic harvest levels of a vessel, person, or other criteria.					
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	American eel and striped bass reporting requirements, contact DMF.					
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hook size is restricted when longlining for cod inside the winter flounder spawning closure area from Feb 1 – May 31. Hooks must exceed 11/16" gape or circle hooks must measure at least ½" inside [CMR 8.09]. Rod & Reel permit holders may not use handlines or longlines. Maximum vessel size: 90 feet [CMR 8.05]. 					
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION		REGULATION		
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round		CMR 4.04		
	Groundfish Closure I: Upper Cape Cod Bay and Mass. Bay (South of Marblehead)	Feb 1-Apr 30 & Oct 1 – Nov 30		CMR 8.12		
	Groundfish Closure II: Marblehead north to N.H.	April 1-May 31		CMR 8.12		
	Winter flounder nearshore spawning closure from Provincetown to N.H. (exception for line trawling of cod with gear restrictions above).	Feb 1 – May 31		CMR 8.09		

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SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Commercial take of winter flounder is prohibited from Feb 1 - May 31 in inshore waters where netting is restricted. These areas include bays and estuaries from Provincetown, along the "backside" of Cape Cod, Buzzards Bay and west to Mount Hope Bay [CMR 6.23]. Mount Hope Bay is closed year-round [CMR 6.23].
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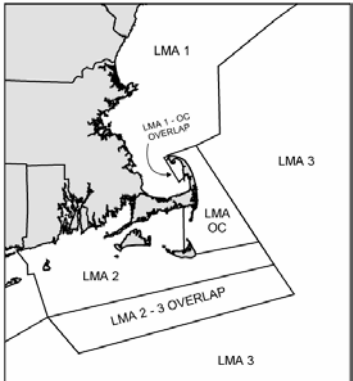
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FISHERY:		FISH WEIRS (also known as Fish Traps or Pound Nets)				
PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	\$260		\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195		\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130		\$260
			or			
		Individual	.....	\$65		\$130
PERMIT LIMIT:		None				
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:		In the following order, one must have approval from: 1) Local selectmen regarding the construction and location. 2) Division of Marine Fisheries [Ch. 130 sec.29] . 3) Division of Waterways.				
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:		Annual catch reports (Ch. 130 sec 33) .				
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Inshore and offshore ends must be marked with DMF permit numbers signs or flags; numbers must be at least 6” in height [Ch.130 sec.30].Division of Waterways regulates the marking of traps for navigational criteria.To designate the “fish trap buffer zone”, weir heads and leader must be marked with 12” orange inflated balls attached to anchor lines and marked with DMF assigned number. See CMR 4.04 for more details.				
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:		LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION		
		None				
SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:		Lobster [Ch. 130 sec.37] ; Striped bass [CMR 6.07] , shad [CMR 4.12] , smelt [Ch.130 sec.35] .				

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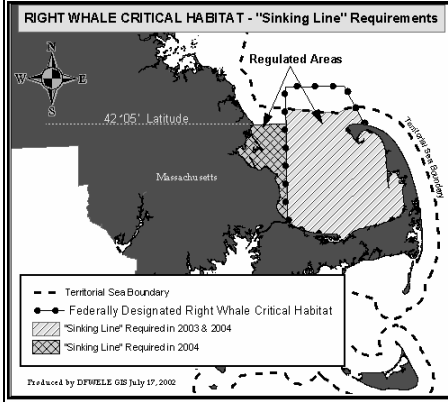
Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	LOBSTERING commercially with POTS in state waters. <i>Not including lobstering with a student permit. See other appropriate summaries for details.</i>				
PERMIT REQUIRED:				<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
	(1)	Coastal Lobster	.....	\$260	\$520
		If certain species are being taken or landed,			
	(2)	Regulated species endorsement	.....	\$30	\$60
PERMIT LIMIT:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No new permits are being issued to lobster commercially in state or federal waters with traps [CMR 7.08]; existing permits are renewable [CMR 7.03]. Transfers of coastal permits are prohibited between areas except when transferring to an area under management of an effort control plan Area-specific regulations, including actively fished criteria, govern the transfer of coastal permits [CMR 7.03] 				
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="flex: 1;">  </div> <div style="flex: 2;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishermen must declare which Lobster Conservation Management Area (LCMA) they intend to fish. [CMR 7.03] Multiple LCMA endorsements are prohibited, except by persons with valid federal authorization for LCMA 3 who may additionally receive authorization for either LCMA 1, 2 or Outer Cape Cod. Those fishing in more than one area as designated on their permits shall observe the most restrictive of different regulations for the areas declared [CMR 7.03] To be eligible for trap allocation in OCCLCMA, permit holders must have documented lawful fishing of lobster traps primarily in OCCLCMA during years 1999, 2000, or 2001. [CMR 6.13] Trap hauling at night prohibited [Ch. 130 sec. 39]. LCMA 1 endorsed permit holders are required to v-notch and release all egg-bearing female lobsters caught in the process of lobstering [322 CMR 6.02]. </div> </div>				
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Annual catch reports [Ch.130 sec.38B] .				
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trap hauling at night prohibited [Ch. 130 sec. 39] LCMA 1 and 2: Pot limit of 800 [CMR 6.13] OCCLCMA pot limit based on individual's initial trap allocation (with appeals process available for some who got permit off 2001 waiting list) [CMR 6.13] and trap allocation transfers [CMR 7.03], not to exceed state water's limit of 800 traps [CMR 6.13] Year-specific trap tags required on all traps [CMR 6.31] Degradable 'ghost' panels required [CMR 6.02]: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> rectangular opening covered by panel at least 3 3/4 x 3 3/4 inches located in outer parlor allowing unobstructed exit of lobsters from trap; panel to be fastened to trap by either wood lath; cotton, hemp, sisal, or jute twine not greater than 3/16" in diameter; or non-stainless, uncoated ferrous metal not greater than 3/32" in diameter; door of trap may serve as ghost panel if fastened to trap with material specified above; escape vent may serve as ghost panel if incorporated into a panel constructed of, or attached to the trap with a material specified above, and upon breakdown of the degradable materials, will create an opening at least 3 3/4" square. 				

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GEAR RESTRICTIONS (cont'd)	<p>5. traps constructed entirely or partially of wood shall be considered to be in compliance if constructed of wood lath to the extent that deterioration of wooden component(s) will result in unobstructed opening at least 3 3/4" square.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All traps, buoys and lobster cars must bear fisherman's license number not less than 1/2" in height nor less than 1/8" in thickness or width of line (for purposes of complying with this requirement, wire traps tagged with trap tags in accordance with 322 CMR 6.31 will be considered sufficient) [Ch. 130 sec.38 and CMR 3.07]. Fisherman's buoy colors must be displayed on vessel [Ch.130 sec.38A]. Surface Marking [CMR 4.13]: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pots require a single 7"x 7" or 5" x 11" buoy; stick is optional. Trawls: <u>East end</u> (South) - double buoy and one or more 3' sticks. <u>West end</u> (North) - single buoy with 3' stick and flag. Note Boston Harbor exemption. Trawl maximum length: 2000 feet [CMR 4.13]. Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05]. Use of multiple pot strings (trawls) is prohibited in the waters of Gosnold [Ch.130 sec.37]. Use of buoyed lobster cars is prohibited except in "inshore net areas" [CMR 6.14]. Use of floating line at the surface prohibited [CMR 12.03].
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WHALE PROTECTION RULES		
YEAR-ROUND GEAR RESTRICTIONS IN ALL STATE WATERS	<p>Any lobster pots fished in any waters of the Commonwealth must be rigged with at least one of the following configurations [CMR 12.04]:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All buoy lines attached to the buoy with a weak link of 600 lbs. breaking strength Groundlines composed of negatively buoyant line All buoy lines composed entirely of negatively buoyant line 	
YEAR-ROUND GEAR RESTRICTIONS IN CAPE COD BAY	Groundlines composed of negatively buoyant line [CMR 12.07]	
CAPE COD CRITICAL HABITAT GEAR RESTRICTIONS (from Jan 1 – May 15)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500-lb breakaway link on buoy line required [CMR 12.05] Lines between traps must be negatively buoyant [CMR 12.05] Single pots prohibited, must be at least 4-pot trawls with two buoy lines or two-pot "doubles" with just one buoy line [CMR 12.05] Buoys must be marked with "twin orange markers" [CMR 12.05 & 4.13] Unlawful to mark fixed gear as required in [CMR 4.13] if pots are not properly rigged with features required in [CMR 12.05] Floating line may be used on lower one-third of buoy line [CMR 12.05] 	

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
(Note: No landing of lobster Feb 1 - Apr 30 from 8:00 PM through 6:00 AM [CMR 6.25])	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Greater New Bedford Harbor north of a line from Ricketson's Point (Dartmouth) to Wilbur Point (Fairhaven)	Year-round	CMR 6.29

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AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: (cont'd)	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DURATION</u>	<u>REGULATION</u>
	Eastern portion of Upper Cape Cod Bay Whiting Area	Oct 1-Nov 20	CMR 8.14

SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	Edible crabs from Jan 1 - April 30 [Ch. 130 sec.40] ; Egg-bearing lobsters [Ch.130 sec.41A] ; V-notched female lobsters [CMR 6.02] ; The catch of finfish and conch must not exceed the catch of lobster by weight, else a regulated fish pot fishery permit is required [CMR 6.12] .
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MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SIZE LIMITS [CMR 6.01]:		
<u>LCMA</u>	<u>MINIMUM SIZE</u>	<u>MAXIMUM SIZE</u>
1	3 1/4"	5"
2	3 3/8"	
3 & OCC	3 3/8"	

ESCAPE VENT MINIMUM SIZES [CMR 6.02]:		
<u>LCMA</u>	<u>RECTANGULAR</u>	<u>TWO CIRCULAR</u>
1	1 15/16" x 5 3/4"	2 7/16"
2, 3, & OCC	2" x 5 3/4"	2 5/8"

V-NOTCH REGULATIONS		
<u>LCMA</u>	<u>REQUIREMENT TO V-NOTCH FEMALE LOBSTER</u>	<u>RULES PERTAINING TO POSSESSION OF A V-NOTCHED FEMALE LOBSTER</u>
1	Commercial fishermen fishing in Area 1 are required to carve a v-shaped notch in any egg-bearing female lobster at least 1/4" and not greater than a 1/2" in depth and tapering to a sharp point in the flipper next to and to the right of the center flipper as viewed from the rear of the female lobster when underside is down.	"ZERO TOLERANCE" applies. Fishermen may not possess a female lobster with a "v-shaped notch" of any size with or without setal hairs on the flipper right of the center flipper. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or obliterate a v-shaped notch.
2, 3, & OCC	No requirement	Fishermen and dealers may not possess a female lobster if it possesses a "v-shaped notch" defined as a straight-sided triangular cut, without setal hairs, at least 1/4" in depth and tapering to a point. The flipper right of the center flipper will be examined when the underside of the lobster is down and its tail is toward the person making the determination. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or obliterate a v-shaped notch.

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
RULES & REGULATIONS SUMMARY
(as of January 2005)

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

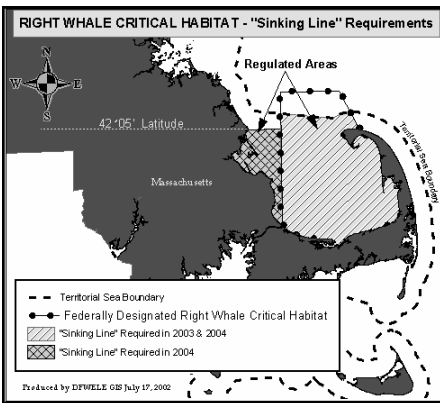
FISHERY:	LOBSTERING commercially with POTS - using STUDENT lobster permit				
PERMIT REQUIRED:				<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
	(1)	Student Lobster	.....	\$65	\$130
PERMIT LIMIT:	Permits are granted only to full-time students over the age of 12, but are not limited.				
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishermen must declare which Lobster Conservation Management Area (LCMA) they intend to fish. [CMR 7.03] Multiple LCMA endorsements are prohibited [CMR 7.03] Trap hauling at night prohibited [Ch. 130 sec. 39]. Fishing only allowed from June 15 - Sept. 15 [Ch. 130 sec.38] No more than 25 pots may be set [Ch. 130 sec.38]. Night fishing is prohibited [Ch. 130 sec.39]. Permit holder not allowed to tend traps authorized under recreational permit (e.g. another family member's traps). LCMA 1 endorsed permit holders are required to v-notch all female lobsters caught in the process of lobstering [322 CMR 6.02]. 				
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Annual catch reports [Ch.130 sec.38B] supplied by DMF and available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries .				
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trap hauling at night prohibited [Ch. 130 sec. 39] LCMA 1 and 2: Pot limit of 800 [CMR 6.13] OCCLMA pot limit based on individual's initial trap allocation [CMR 6.13] and trap allocation transfers [CMR 7.03], not to exceed state water's limit of 800 traps [CMR 6.13] Year-specific trap tags required on all traps [CMR 6.31] Degradable 'ghost' panels required [CMR 6.02]: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> rectangular opening covered by panel at least 3 ¾ x 3 ¾ inches located in outer parlor allowing unobstructed exit of lobsters from trap; panel to be fastened to trap by either wood lath; cotton, hemp, sisal, or jute twine not greater than 3/16" in diameter; or non-stainless, uncoated ferrous metal not greater than 3/32" in diameter; door of trap may serve as ghost panel if fastened to trap with material specified above; escape vent may serve as ghost panel if incorporated into a panel constructed of, or attached to the trap with a material specified above, and upon breakdown of the degradable materials, will create an opening at least 3 3/4" square. traps constructed entirely or partially of wood shall be considered to be in compliance if constructed of wood lath to the extent that deterioration of wooden component(s) will result in unobstructed opening at least 3 3/4" square. All traps, buoys and lobster cars must bear fisherman's license number not less than ½" in height nor less than 1/8" in thickness or width of line (for purposes of complying with this requirement, wire traps tagged with trap tags in accordance with 322 CMR 6.31 will be considered sufficient) [Ch. 130 sec.38] and [CMR 3.07]. Fisherman's buoy colors must be displayed on vessel [Ch.130 sec.38A]. 				

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
RULES & REGULATIONS SUMMARY
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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS: (cont'd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surface Marking [CMR 4.13]: Pots require a single 7"x 7" or 5" x 11" buoy; stick is optional. Trawls: <u>East end</u> (South) - double buoy and one or more 3' sticks. <u>West end</u> (North) - single buoy with 3' stick and flag. Note Boston Harbor exemption. Trawl maximum length: 2000 feet [CMR 4.13]. Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05]. Use of multiple pot strings (trawls) is prohibited in the waters of Gosnold [Ch.130 sec.37]. Use of buoyed lobster cars is prohibited except in "inshore net areas" [CMR 6.14]. Use of floating line at the surface prohibited [CMR 12.03].
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WHALE PROTECTION RULES

YEAR-ROUND GEAR RESTRICTIONS IN ALL STATE WATERS	Any lobster pots fished in any waters of the Commonwealth must be rigged with at least one of the following configurations [CMR 12.04] : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All buoy lines attached to the buoy with a weak link of 600 lbs. breaking strength Groundlines composed of negatively buoyant line All buoy lines composed entirely of negatively buoyant line 	
YEAR-ROUND GEAR RESTRICTIONS IN CAPE COD BAY	Groundlines composed of negatively buoyant line [CMR 12.07]	
CAPE COD CRITICAL HABITAT GEAR RESTRICTIONS (from Jan 1 – May 15)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500-lb breakaway link on buoy line required [CMR 12.05] Lines between traps must be negatively buoyant [CMR 12.05] Single pots prohibited, must be at least 4-pot trawls with two buoy lines or two-pot "doubles" with just one buoy line [CMR 12.05] Buoys must be marked with "twin orange markers" [CMR 12.05 & 4.13] Unlawful to mark fixed gear as required in [CMR 4.13] if pots are not properly rigged with features required in [CMR 12.05] Floating line may be used on lower one-third of buoy line [CMR 12.05] 	 <p>RIGHT WHALE CRITICAL HABITAT - "Sinking Line" Requirements</p> <p>Produced by DFW/ELLE OSB July 17, 2002</p>

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: (Note: No landing of lobster Feb 1 - Apr 30 from 8:00 PM through 6:00 AM [CMR 6.25])	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Greater New Bedford Harbor north of a line from Ricketson's Point (Dartmouth) to Wilbur Point (Fairhaven)	Year-round	CMR 6.29
	Eastern portion of the Upper Cape Cod Bay Whiting Area	Oct 1-Nov 20	CMR 8.14
SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	Egg-bearing lobsters [Ch.130 sec.41A] ; V-notched female lobsters [CMR 6.02(3)] ;		

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
RULES & REGULATIONS SUMMARY
(as of January 2005)

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SIZE LIMITS [CMR 6.01]:		
<u>LCMA</u>	<u>MINIMUM SIZE</u>	<u>MAXIMUM SIZE</u>
1	3 1/4"	5"
2	3 3/8"	
3 & OCC	3 3/8"	

ESCAPE VENT MINIMUM SIZES [CMR 6.02]:		
<u>LCMA</u>	<u>RECTANGULAR</u>	<u>TWO CIRCULAR</u>
1	1 15/16" x 5 3/4"	2 7/16"
2, 3, & OCC	2" x 5 3/4"	2 5/8"

V-NOTCH REGULATIONS		
<u>LCMA</u>	<u>REQUIREMENT TO V-NOTCH FEMALE LOBSTER</u>	<u>RULES PERTAINING TO POSSESSION OF A V-NOTCHED FEMALE LOBSTER</u>
1	Commercial fishermen fishing in Area 1 are required to carve a v-shaped notch in any egg-bearing female lobster at least 1/4" and not greater than a 1/2" in depth and tapering to a sharp point in the flipper next to and to the right of the center flipper as viewed from the rear of the female lobster when underside is down.	"ZERO TOLERANCE" applies. Fishermen may not possess a female lobster with a "v-shaped notch" of any size with or without setal hairs on the flipper right of the center flipper. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or obliterate a v-shaped notch.
2, 3, & OCC	No requirement	Fishermen and dealers may not possess a female lobster if it possesses a "v-shaped notch" defined as a straight-sided triangular cut, without setal hairs, at least 1/4" in depth and tapering to a point. The flipper right of the center flipper will be examined when the underside of the lobster is down and its tail is toward the person making the determination. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or obliterate a v-shaped notch.

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
RULES & REGULATIONS SUMMARY
(as of July 2004)

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	LOBSTERING commercially with SCUBA in state waters.
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PERMIT REQUIRED:				<u>Resident</u>		<u>Non-Resident</u>
	(1)	Coastal Lobster	\$260		\$520

PERMIT LIMIT:	No new permits are being issued to lobster commercial in state waters. Existing permits are renewable and permit transfers area limited [CMR 7.03]
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PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishermen must declare which Lobster Conservation Management Area (LCMA) they intend to fish. [CMR 7.03] Multiple LCMA endorsements are prohibited [CMR 7.03] Night fishing for lobsters is prohibited [Ch. 130 sec.39].
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REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Annual catch reports [Ch. 130 sec.38b] .
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GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	Scuba tank and floating marker must display permit numbers. Permit numbers shall be not less than 3 inches in height nor less than ½ inch in thickness or width of line [Ch. 130 sec. 38A and CMR 3.07] .
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AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: (Note:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
No landing of lobster Feb 1 - April 30 from 8:00 PM through 6:00 AM ([CMR 6.25])	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Greater New Bedford Harbor north of a line from Ricketson's Point (Dartmouth) to Wilbur Point (Fairhaven)	Year-round	CMR 6.29

SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	Edible crabs from Jan 1 - April 30 [Ch. 130 sec.40] ; Egg-bearing lobsters [Ch.130 sec.41A] ; V-notched female lobsters [CMR 6.02] ;
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MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SIZE LIMITS [CMR 6.01]:		
LCMA	MINIMUM SIZE	MAXIMUM SIZE
1	3 ¼"	5"
2	3 ⅜"	
3 & OCC	3 ⅜"	

V-NOTCH REGULATIONS		
LCMA	REQUIREMENT TO V-NOTCH FEMALE LOBSTER	RULES PERTAINING TO POSSESSION OF A V-NOTCHED FEMALE LOBSTER
1	Commercial fishermen fishing in Area 1 are required to carve a v-shaped notch in any egg-bearing female lobster at least ¼" and not greater than a ½" in depth and tapering to a sharp point in the flipper next to and to the right of the center flipper as viewed from the rear of the female lobster when underside is down.	"ZERO TOLERANCE" applies. Fishermen may not possess a female lobster with a "v-shaped notch" of any size with or without setal hairs on the flipper right of the center flipper. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or obliterate a v-shaped notch.

LCMA	REQUIREMENT TO V-NOTCH	RULES PERTAINING TO POSSESSION
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RULES & REGULATIONS SUMMARY
(as of January 2005)

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

	<u>FEMALE LOBSTER</u>	<u>OF A V-NOTCHED FEMALE LOBSTER</u>
2, 3, & OCC	No requirement	Fishermen and dealers may not possess a female lobster if it possesses a “v-shaped notch” defined as a straight-sided triangular cut, without setal hairs, at least ¼” in depth and tapering to a point. The flipper right of the center flipper will be examined when the underside of the lobster is down and its tail is toward the person making the determination. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or obliterate a v-shaped notch.

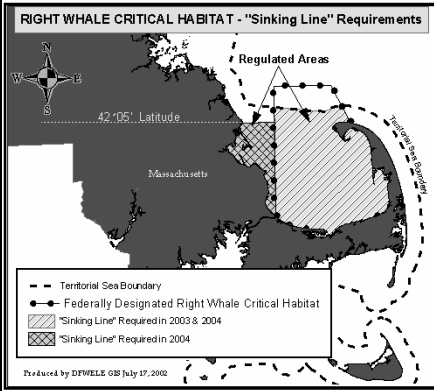
MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
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(as of July 2004)

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:		LOBSTERING recreationally with POTS or SCUBA using the Non-Commercial Lobster Permit.			
PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident	Non-Resident
	(1)	Non-Commercial Lobster	.....	\$40	\$60
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sale of lobsters and crabs prohibited [Ch. 130 sec. 38].• No more than 10 pots may be set [Ch. 130 sec. 38].• 15 lobster possession limit [322 CMR 6.02].• Trap hauling at night prohibited [Ch. 130 sec. 39].• Non-residents must own \$5,000 in MA real estate and temporarily reside in a MA coastal town [Ch. 130 sec. 38].• Non-residents may only use the permit during Jun - Sep.			
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:		Annual Catch Report: number of pots set or hours diving and number of lobsters taken must be reported.			
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Escape vent required in trap's parlor section and degradable 'ghost' panels required. Minimum size requirements based on specific area fished [CMR 6.02]:<div><div>Recreational Lobster Area</div><div>Escape Vent Minimum Size</div><div>Gulf of Maine</div><div>1-15/16" x 5-3/4" or</div><div>two circular vents at least 2-7/16" diameter</div><div>Southeastern</div><div>2" x 5-3/4" or</div><div>two circular vents at least 2 5/8" diameter</div></div>• Degradable 'ghost' panels required [CMR 6.02].• All traps and lobster cars must bear the letter “N” followed by the fisherman's license number. All buoys must be marked with the letter “N” prior to the 4-digit permit # and a dash with a single digit (0-9) indicating the sequential pot number [Ch. 130 sec.38 and CMR 3.07].• Fisherman's buoy color scheme must be displayed on vessel [Ch.130 sec.38A].• Marking [CMR 4.13]:<div>Pots require a single 7"x 7" or 5" x 11" buoy; stick is optional.</div><div>Trawls: East end - double buoy and one or more 3' sticks.</div><div>West end - single buoy with 3' stick and flag.</div><div>Note Boston Harbor exemption.</div>• Trawl maximum length: 2000 feet [CMR 4.13].• Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].• Use of trawls is prohibited in the waters of Gosnold [Ch. 130 sec.37].• Use of buoyed lobster cars is prohibited except in "inshore net areas" [CMR 6.14].• Use of floating line at the surface prohibited [CMR 12.03].			
WHALE PROTECTION RULES					
YEAR-ROUND GEAR RESTRICTIONS IN ALL STATE WATERS		<div>Any lobster pots fished in any waters of the Commonwealth must be rigged with at least one of the following configurations [CMR 12.04]:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All buoy lines attached to the buoy with a weak link of 600 lbs. breaking strength• Groundlines composed of negatively buoyant line• All buoy lines composed entirely of negatively buoyant line			

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

YEAR-ROUND GEAR RESTRICTIONS IN CAPE COD BAY	Groundlines composed of negatively buoyant line [CMR 12.07]	
CAPE COD CRITICAL HABITAT GEAR RESTRICTIONS (from Jan 1 – May 15)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500-lb breakaway link on buoy line required [CMR 12.05] Lines between traps must be negatively buoyant [CMR 12.05] Single pots prohibited, must be at least 4-pot trawls with two buoy lines or two-pot “doubles” with just one buoy line [CMR 12.05] Buoys must be marked with “twin orange markers” [CMR 12.05 & 4.13] Unlawful to mark fixed gear as required in [CMR 4.13] if pots are not properly rigged with features required in [CMR 12.05] Floating line may be used on lower one-third of buoy line [CMR 12.05] 	

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: (Note: No landing of lobster Feb 1 - Apr 30 from 8:00 PM through 6:00 AM [CMR 6.25])	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Greater New Bedford Harbor north of a line from Ricketson’s Point (Dartmouth) to Wilbur Point (Fairhaven)	Year-round	CMR 6.29
	Eastern portion of the Upper Cape Cod Bay Whiting Area	Oct 1-Nov 20	CMR 8.14

SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	Edible crabs from Jan 1 - April 30 [Ch. 130 sec.40] ; Egg-bearing lobsters [Ch.130 sec.41A] ; V-notched female lobsters [CMR 6.02] ;
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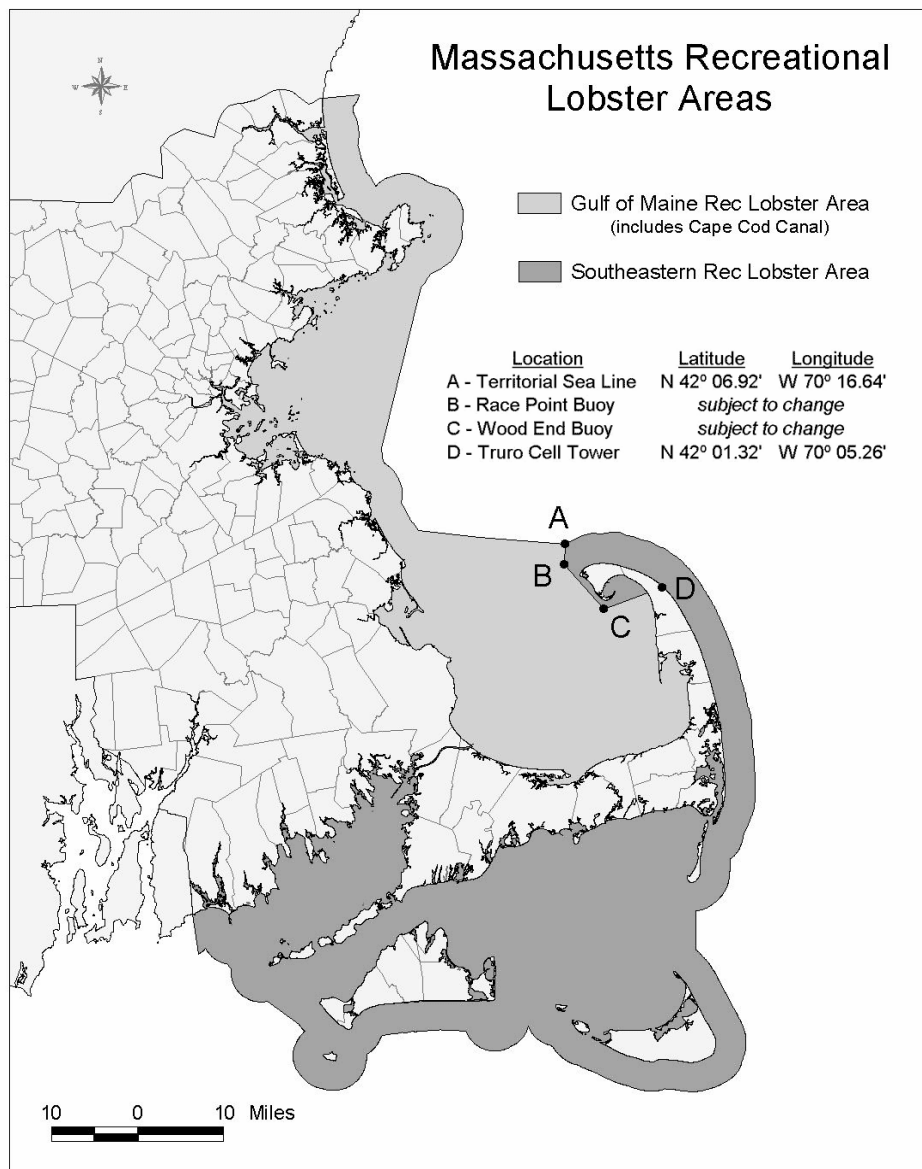
MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SIZE LIMITS [CMR 6.01] :		
RECREATIONAL LOBSTER AREA	MINIMUM SIZE	MAXIMUM SIZE
Gulf of Maine	3 ¼”	5”
Southeastern	3 ⅜”	

V-NOTCH REGULATIONS		
RECREATIONAL LOBSTER AREA	REQUIREMENT TO V-NOTCH FEMALE LOBSTER	RULES PERTAINING TO POSSESSION OF A V-NOTCHED FEMALE LOBSTER
Gulf of Maine	Commercial fishermen fishing in Area 1 are required to carve a v-shaped notch in any egg-bearing female lobster at least ¼” and not greater than a ½” in depth and tapering to a sharp point in the flipper next to and to the right of the center flipper as viewed from the rear of the female lobster when underside is down.	“ZERO TOLERANCE” applies. Fishermen may not possess a female lobster with a “v-shaped notch” of any size with or without setal hairs on the flipper right of the center flipper. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or obliterate a v-shaped notch.

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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

<u>RECREATIONAL LOBSTER AREA</u>	<u>REQUIREMENT TO V-NOTCH FEMALE LOBSTER</u>	<u>RULES PERTAINING TO POSSESSION OF A V-NOTCHED FEMALE LOBSTER</u>
Southeastern	No requirement	Fishermen and dealers may not possess a female lobster if it possesses a "v-shaped notch" defined as a straight-sided triangular cut, without setal hairs, at least ¼" in depth and tapering to a point. The flipper right of the center flipper will be examined when the underside of the lobster is down and its tail is toward the person making the determination. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or obliterate a v-shaped notch.



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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:		POTTING for SEA BASS			
PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident	Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen			
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	\$260	\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195	\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130	\$260
			or		
		Individual	.....	\$65	\$130
	(2)	Regulated fishery endorsement	.....	\$30	\$60
	If certain species are being taken or landed				
(3)	Species-specific endorsements for summer flounder (fluke), scup, sea herring, dogfish, black sea bass	.....	\$30	\$60	
PERMIT LIMIT:	Permits limited to those fishermen who held a 1987 black sea bass Regulated fishery endorsement & reported activity in this fishery within 1988 - 1993 [CMR 6.12]. Permits are transferable. Fishermen who possess Coastal Lobster permit may take finfish in their traps as long as the weight of fish and conch does not exceed the weight of lobster [CMR 6.12].				
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	Night fishing (½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise) is prohibited [CMR 6.15].				
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Annual catch reports required (forms supplied by DMF, available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries).				
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year specific trap tag with permit number must be attached to trap’s cross member.• Pot Limit of 200 combined sea bass and scup, or 350 if two permit holders fish from the same vessel [CMR 6.15].• Unobstructed escape vent or opening measuring at least 2 3/8” in diameter, two inches square, or 1 3/8” by 5 3/4” required [CMR 6.12].• All buoys and pots must bear fisherman’s permit number [CMR 6.12].• Use of floating line at the surface prohibited [CMR 12.03].• Marking [CMR 4.13]:<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) Pots require a single buoy (7”x 7”or 5”x 11”); stick optional with no flag.2)Trawls: <u>East end</u> – double buoy and one or more 3’ sticks.<u>West end</u> – single buoy with 3’ stick and flag.• All fish pots require accepted ghost panel [CMR 6.12].• Escape vent required in trap’s parlor section must measure at least 1 3/8” x 5 3/4”, 2” square, or a circular vent at least 2 3/8” diameter [CMR 6.12]• Trawl maximum length: 2000 feet [CMR 4.13].• Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].• Use of trawls is prohibited in the waters of Gosnold [Ch. 130 sec.37].• All vessels must display buoy color scheme [CMR 6.12].				
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION		DURATION	REGULATION	
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within area marked by anchor buoys.		Year-round	CMR 4.04	
SPECIES BANNED	Edible crabs from January 1- April 30 [Ch. 130 sec.40]; Lobster (a commercial lobster				

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

TO THIS GEAR:	permit is needed to take lobster).
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(as of January 2005)

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	POTTING for Conch, Scup, or other species (excluding SEA BASS)				
PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident	Non- Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen			
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	\$260	\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195	\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130	\$260
			or		
		Individual	.....	\$65	\$130
		Shellfish	.....	\$40	\$80
	(2)	Regulated fishery endorsement	.....	\$30	\$60
PERMIT LIMIT:	Permits are limited to those fishermen who held a Regulated fishery endorsement for scup and/or for conch prior to August 17, 1990 and are transferable [CMR 6.12] .				
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Conch pot fishery closed from Dec. 15 - April 14 [CMR 6.12].All conchs must be landed whole in the shell [CMR 6.21]				
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Pot fishermen must submit catch reports annually. Available online at www.mass.gov.marinefisheries .				
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year specific trap tag with permit number must be attached to trap's cross member.Pot Limit of 200 conch pots; 50 scup pots [CMR 6.15].Conch pots defined as lacking side heads or horizontal laths [CMR 6.12]All buoys and pots must bear fisherman's permit number [CMR 6.12].Marking [CMR 4.13]:<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) Pots require a single buoy (7"x 7" or 5"x 11"); stick optional with no flag.3) Trawls: <u>East end</u> – double buoy and one or more 3' sticks. <u>West end</u> – single buoy with 3' stick and flag.All fish pots require accepted ghost panel [CMR 6.12].Escape vent required and must measure at least 2.25" square or circular vents of at least 3.1" diameter [CMR 6.12]Trawl maximum length: 2000 feet [CMR 4.13].Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].Use of trawls is prohibited in the waters of Gosnold [Ch. 130 sec.37].All vessels must display buoy color scheme [CMR 6.12].				
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION		
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04		
SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	Edible crabs from Jan 1 - April 30 [Ch. 130 sec.40] ; lobster (one needs a commercial lobster permit to take lobster); black sea bass (a black sea pass pot permit is needed to take black sea bass).				

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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	COMMERCIAL SHELLFISHING (OTHER THAN DREDGING FOR SURF CLAM, OCEAN QUAHOGS OR POTTING CONCHS)				
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PERMIT REQUIRED:	In approved waters:				
	(1)	License from respective coastal municipality [Ch. 130, § 52 & 53]			
		AND			
	(2)	Commercial fishermen license endorsed for shellfish required to sell shellfish harvested from approved waters [Ch. 130, § 75 & 83]			
		<u>Licenses endorsed for Commercial Shellfish</u>			
			<u>Resident</u>		<u>Non-Resident</u>
		Coastal Lobster	\$260		\$520
		Large Boat (60' – 90')	\$195		\$390
		Small Boat (0' – 59')	\$130		\$260
		Individual	\$65		\$130
		Shellfish	\$40		\$80
		Rod & Reel (Shellfish)	\$55		\$130
	In certain restricted or conditionally restricted areas, as designated by DMF: (Note: As of 1997, DMF no longer permits harvest of contaminated soft shelled clams for bait)				
	(1)	License from respective coastal municipality [Ch. 130, § 52 & 53]			
		AND			
(2)	Special license to harvest, possess, and sell shellfish from restricted areas [CMR 7.01 & 7.02]				
		<u>Resident</u>		<u>Non-Resident</u>	
	Special Shellfish Permits				
	Master Digger	\$130		\$260	
	Subordinate Digger	\$40		\$80	

PERMIT LIMIT:	None.
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PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	None.
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REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yearly catch reports required for shellfishermen harvesting in approved waters. Cities and towns generally require a yearly catch report at the time of license renewal. Master diggers report as noted in the special permit requirements.
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GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	Subject to town authority (Ch. 130, § 52) .
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AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Shellfish growing waters may be closed to the harvest of shellfish as a result of:		
	(1)	Public health closure based upon water quality, e.g. bacteria or oil spill. (Ch. 130, § 74, 74A & 75)	

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: (cont'd)	(2)	Marine Biotoxin closure based upon the presence of toxin above NSSP closure levels in raw shellfish (Ch. 130, § 74A)
	(3)	DMF Management Closure (MC) based upon the lack of a DMF shellfish sanitary survey, triennial report or NSSP required number of water samples (Ch. 130, § 2, 17, 17A, 74, 75, 80 & 104; 322 CMR 7.01)
	(4)	Municipal management closure based upon the closure of an area for management or propagation purposes (Ch. 130, § 54)
	(5)	Ch. 130, § 71 establishes a closed harvest season for bay scallops April 1 to October 1 each year. Municipalities may modify bay scallop season within the above mentioned season [Ch. 130, § 73] .

SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	N/A
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FISHERY LIMITS:	<u>Possession Limits</u> – subject to town or city regulation		
	<u>Minimum Size</u> – subject to state law or regulation as listed:		
	<u>INVERTEBRATES</u>	<u>MINIMUM SIZE</u>	<u>OTHER RESTRICTIONS</u>
	BLUE CRAB	4 ¹ / ₈ " shell width (spine to spine)	open season May 1 - Dec. 31; egg-bearers cannot be taken
	LOBSTER	3 ¹ / ₄ " carapace length 5" maximum size in Area I	egg-bearers & v-notched females cannot be possessed
	SEA URCHIN	2" diameter excluding spines	commercial open season Sep 1 - Apr 30
	CONCH	2 ³ / ₄ " shell width [322 CMR 6.21]	Consult town regulations
	OYSTER	3" shell diameter [322 CMR 6.20]	Consult town regulations
	QUAHOG	1" shell thickness [322 CMR 6.20]	Consult town regulations
	SEA SCALLOP	3 ¹ / ₂ " shell height [322 CMR 6.05]	
	SOFT-SHELL CLAM	2" shell diameter [322 CMR 6.20]	Consult town regulations
	BAY SCALLOPS	Well-defined growth ring	Consult town regulations; closed season April 1 - Oct 1
	SURF CLAM	5" shell diameter, [322 CMR 6.08]	Possession limits

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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:		COMMERCIAL QUAHOG DREDGING				
PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	\$260		\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195		\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130		\$260
			or			
		Individual	.....	\$65		\$130
	(2)	Regulated fishery endorsement	.....	\$30		\$60
PERMIT LIMIT:		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Commercial quahog dredging fishery endorsement limited to those who held a quahog dredging endorsement in 2001 [CMR 6.36].Quahog Regulated dredge-fishery endorsement is transferable.				
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:		None.				
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:		All commercial quahog dredge fishermen are required to provide the Director with a monthly record of the areas fished, times fished, and a daily record of harvest by bushel [CMR 6.36] . Forms supplied by DMF & available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries .				
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Dredge limited to 48 inches effective fishing width. [CMR 6.36]Limited to operation of one dredge. [CMR 6.36]Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].				
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION		DURATION		REGULATION	
	All state waters closed to night fishing.		Year-round		[CMR 8.03]	
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.		Year-round		CMR 4.04	
	No fishing in any area designated as contaminated and classified as PROHIBITED by DMF		Year-round		[Ch. 130 §§ 74 or 74A]	
	No fishing in any area closed for management purposes. Contact DMF.		Contact DMF		[CMR 6.08]	
	No fishing in any area not classified as APPROVED according to the National Shellfish Sanitation Program.		Contact DMF		[CMR 6.08]	
	SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:		None.			
FISHERY LIMITS:		Possession Limits - Limit of 40 bushels per 24 hour day [CMR 6.36] .				

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	SEA URCHIN FISHERY with SCUBA				
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PERMIT REQUIRED:				<u>Resident</u>		<u>Non-Resident</u>
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	\$260		\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195		\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130		\$260
			or			
		Individual	\$65		\$130
(2)	Regulated fishery endorsement	\$30		\$60	

PERMIT LIMIT:	None.
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PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	None.
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REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	None.
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GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].
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AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DURATION</u>	<u>REGULATION</u>
	All state waters.	May 1 – Aug 31	[CMR 6.24]
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04

SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No bycatch of regulated species allowed, including any finfish, lobsters, or shellfish [CMR 6.24]. Sublegal urchins must be culled and returned immediately [CMR 6.24].
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FISHERY LIMITS:	None.
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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	SEA URCHIN FISHERY using DREDGES				
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PERMIT REQUIRED:				<u>Resident</u>		<u>Non-Resident</u>
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	\$260		\$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	\$195		\$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	\$130		\$260
		or				
		Individual	.....	\$65		\$130
	(2)	Regulated fishery endorsement	.....	\$30		\$60
	(3)	Coastal Access Permit (if fishing with dredge greater than 48 inches in waters open to mobile gear fishing)	.....	\$30		\$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	Coastal Access Permits limited to those who held a permit in 1994 and are transferable [CMR 7.05] .
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PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	None.
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REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	None.
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GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited to single dredge of 48 inches effective fishing width if fishing in areas closed to mobile gear (spare may be stowed on board) [CMR 6.24]. Frame constructed of ¾" (or smaller) stock with skids 3' or less. Chain sweep constructed of no more than ¼" in a single layer square pattern less than 4.5' long. Twine codend maximum 5' long. Chafing gear constructed of twine or rubber mat maximum 5' long and 4' wide. Cable for towing dredge: maximum diameter 3/8" cable or 5/8" rope. Limited to use and possession of dredge or combination of dredges with an effective fishing width of 10 feet when fishing in areas open to mobile gear [CMR 6.24]. Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 7.05].
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AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DURATION</u>	<u>REGULATION</u>
	All state waters closed to night fishing.	Year-round	[CMR 8.03 & 6.24]
	All state waters.	Mar 1 – Oct 31	[CMR 6.24]

SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No bycatch of regulated species allowed, including any finfish, lobsters, or shellfish [CMR 6.24]. Sublegal urchins must be culled and returned immediately [CMR 6.24].
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FISHERY LIMITS:	None.
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MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FINFISH MINIMUM SIZE AND POSSESSION LIMITS

MINIMUM SIZE LIMITS

- (1) Commercial and Recreational Fishermen. It is unlawful for any person to possess:
 - (a) Black sea bass less than 12" total length not including the tail tendril as established by [322 CMR 8.06](#).
 - (b) Eels less than 6" total length as established by [322 CMR 6.30](#).
 - (c) Dab less than 14" total length as established by [322 CMR 6.09](#).
 - (d) Gray sole less than 14" total length as established by [322 CMR 6.09](#).
 - (e) Halibut less than 36" as established by 322 CMR 6.03.
 - (f) Monkfish less than 17" total length or monkfish tails less than 11" as established by [322 CMR 8.06](#).
 - (g) Redfish less than 9" total length as established by [322 CMR 8.06](#).
 - (h) Scup less than 10" total length as established by [322 CMR 8.06](#).
 - (i) Tautog less than 16" total length as established by [322 CMR 8.06](#).
 - (j) Weakfish less than 16" total length as established by [322 CMR 8.06](#).
 - (k) Windowpane flounder less than 12" total length as established by [322 CMR 6.09](#).
 - (l) Winter flounder less than 12" total length as established by [322 CMR 6.09](#).
 - (m) Yellowtail flounder less than 13" total length as established by [322 CMR 6.03](#).
- (2) Commercial Fishermen. It is unlawful for any commercial fisherman to possess:
 - (a) Cod less than 22" total length as established by [322 CMR 6.03](#).
 - (b) Haddock less than 19" total length as established by [322 CMR 6.03](#).
 - (c) Pollock less than 19" total length as established by [322 CMR 6.03](#).
 - (d) Striped bass less than 34" total length as established by [322 CMR 6.07](#).
 - (e) Summer flounder less than 14" total length as established by [322 CMR 6.09](#).
- (3) Recreational Fishermen. It is unlawful for any recreational fisherman to possess:
 - (a) Cod less than 22" total length as established by [322 CMR 6.03](#).
 - (b) Haddock less than 19" total length as established by [322 CMR 6.03](#).
 - (c) Blue marlin less than 86" fork length as established by [322 CMR 6.11](#).
 - (d) Sailfish less than 57" fork length as established by [322 CMR 6.11](#).
 - (e) Striped bass less than 28" total length as established by [322 CMR 6.07](#).
 - (f) Summer flounder less than 16½" total length as established by [322 CMR 6.09](#).
 - (g) White marlin less than 62" fork length as established by [322 CMR 6.11](#).
 - (h) White perch less than 8" total length as established by [322 CMR 8.06](#).

POSSESSION LIMITS

- (1) Recreational Fishermen. It is unlawful for any recreational fisherman to possess at any one time more than:
 - (a) 20 black sea bass as established by [322 CMR 8.06](#).
 - (b) 1 blue marlin as established by [322 CMR 6.11](#).
 - (c) 10 bluefish as established by [322 CMR 6.18](#).
 - (d) 10 cod as established by [322 CMR 6.03](#).
 - (e) 1 halibut per person per day as established by 322 CMR 6.03.
 - (e) 1 sailfish as established by [322 CMR 6.11](#).
 - (f) 40 scup as established by [322 CMR 8.06](#) (80 fish/ private boat; charter/party boats have 100/person from January through June).
 - (g) 2 striped bass as established by [322 CMR 6.07](#).
 - (h) 7 summer flounder as established by [322 CMR 6.22](#).
 - (i) 3 tautog as established by [322 CMR 8.06](#).
 - (j) 1 white marlin as established by [322 CMR 6.11](#).
 - (k) 3 winter flounder March 1 - April 30; otherwise 8 winter flounder limit as established by [322 CMR 6.23](#).
 - (l) 6 shad as established by [322 CMR 8.06](#).
 - (m) 10 weakfish as established by [322 CMR 8.06](#).
 - (n) 25 white perch as established by [322 CMR 8.06](#).
 - (o) 50 eels as established by [322 CMR 6.30](#).
- (2) Seasonal Restrictions.

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Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

- (a) It is unlawful for any recreational fisherman to possess more than 3 winter flounder during the period of March 1 - April 30, inclusive as established by [322 CMR 6.23](#).
- (b) It is unlawful for any commercial fisherman to possess tautog outside of the open periods of April 16-May 15 and July 11-October 31 inclusive as established by [322 CMR 8.13](#).
- (c) It is unlawful for any commercial fisherman to possess striped bass outside of the open period of July 11 until quota is reached and on no fishing days during open period as established by [322 CMR 6.07](#).
- (d) It is unlawful for any commercial fisherman to possess more than 750 lbs. of yellowtail flounder during the period Dec-Mar & Jun-Sep or 250 lbs. during the period Apr-May & Oct-Nov as established by 322 CMR 6.03.
- (e) It is unlawful for any recreational fisherman to possess black sea bass during the periods of September 8-21 and December 1-May 9, inclusive as established by [322 CMR 6.28](#).
- (3) Commercial Fishermen. It is unlawful for any commercial fisherman to possess more than:
 - (a) the daily allowance for black sea bass as established by [322 CMR 6.28](#)
 - (b) the daily allowance for bluefish as established by [322 CMR 4.05](#)
 - (c) 800 pounds of cod caught in waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth north of 42 00'N. latitude including all waters of Cape Cod Bay as established by [322 CMR 6.03](#).
 - (d) 1,000 lbs. of cod caught in waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth South of 42 00'N. latitude excluding waters of Cape Cod Bay during a 24-hour day except that vessels with federal permits allowing the taking of cod from federal waters may possess and land more than 2,000 lbs. provided said cod were lawfully taken from federal waters [\[322 CMR 6.03\]](#).
 - (d) Cod gonads weighing in aggregate in excess of 10% of the weight of cod aboard the vessel as established in [322.CMR 6.03](#)
 - (e) 1 halibut per vessel per day as established by 322 CMR 6.03.
 - (f) the daily allowance for scup as established by [322 CMR 6.28](#)
 - (g) 30 striped bass daily during the open fishing days of Sunday through Wednesday [\[322 CMR 6.07\]](#)
 - (h) 40 tautog at any one time as established by [322 CMR 8.06](#).
 - (i) 6 shad as established by 322 CMR 8.06. (It is unlawful to possess shad taken by nets [Ch 130, s100c](#))
 - (j) unlawful to possess sea herring during times and areas defined in [322 CMR 9.02](#).
 - (k) 1000 horseshoe crabs during any 24 hour period starting at 12PM and no harvesting on Saturday and Sundays as established by [322 CMR 6.34](#).
 - (l) the daily allowance of spiny dogfish as established by [322 CMR 6.35](#).
 - (m) the daily allowance for fluke as established by [322 CMR 6.22](#).
- (4) Sturgeon. It is unlawful for any person to land or possess any Atlantic sturgeon or the endangered short-nosed sturgeon as established by [322 CMR 6.16](#).